

BALTIMORE CITY - COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

CDBG SURVEY YEAR: 12

SURVEY NO.: B-3964

AREA: St. Frances Academy - Brentwood Avenue
Historic District

MAGI NO.: 0439645616

ADDRESS: 508 East Preston Street

CURRENT NAME: Yellow Cab Company/Lee's Auto Center

BLOCK: 1141 LOT: 16

LOT SIZE:

HEIGHT: 3

MATERIALS: Brick

CONDITION: Good

OWNER: Yellow Cab Company

ADDRESS:

USE: Auto Repair/Taxi dispatch

ACCESSIBLE: Yes, restricted

DESIGNATION:

LIBER/FOLIO:



HISTORIC NAME: Detrick and Harvey Machine Works

DATE: Ca. 1885 - Ca. 1910

ARCHITECT/BUILDER:

STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE):

DESCRIPTION:

The Detrick and Harvey Machine Works is a group of connecting brick industrial buildings dating from about 1885 to the early 20th century located on the north side of East Preston Street about one-half block west of Greenmount Avenue in the St. Frances Academy-Brentwood Avenue Historic District in east central Baltimore, Maryland. The earliest part is probably the easternmost of the group, a circa 1885 two-story reinforced brick building with a dormer gable roof and a pedimented gable end facing Preston Street. The long east elevation and the south elevation feature large segmental-arched windows filled with glass block and a partially filled-in entry on Preston Street. The adjoining building on the west is also reinforced brick with a pediment on the south, but has three stories and somewhat smaller arched openings. It is more square in plan and joined by an open shed on the north elevation to the third major building in the group. This is a long one-story reinforced brick shop building with arched openings containing glass block. Along the ridge of the gable roof are a line of ventilators. This building is painted white, while the other two main structures are unpainted. Several small additions of brick functional structures related to the auto repair shop are located on the east side of the group near a driveway extending through the buildings on an east-west axis, emerging just behind the westernmost building which now serves as the dispatch office of the Yellow Cab Company.

SIGNIFICANCE:

AREA: industry; architecture

LEVEL: Local

The Detrick and Harvey Machine Works is significant in the industrial development of Baltimore as a manufacturer of heavy machine tools from the early 1880's until the mid 1920's. The firm produced, among other things, construction trade machinery, such as the open-sided planer made by Detrick and Harvey which is on display at the Baltimore Museum of Industry. The firm occupied the brick complex of industrial buildings at 508 East Preston from 1885 until the mid 1920's, adding structures as needed to the original building which is now the easternmost part of the complex. About 1920, Bethlehem Steel took over Detrick and Harvey, but the company apparently went out of business in about 1927. In 1929, the Yellow Cab Co. bought the complex for its dispatch headquarters. Later in the mid-20th century, an auto repair shop leased the eastern part of the complex. The architecture of the three main buildings is functional and the reinforced brick walls clearly define the buildings as industrial in purpose, contrasting with the small retail, commercial, and residential buildings to the east and south. The Industrial Building (B-1024; National Register) across Preston Street is the only structurally related building near the Machine Works.

SOURCES:

Balto. Mus. of Industry, Sanborn Map 1914, Bromley Atlas 1896, City Directories

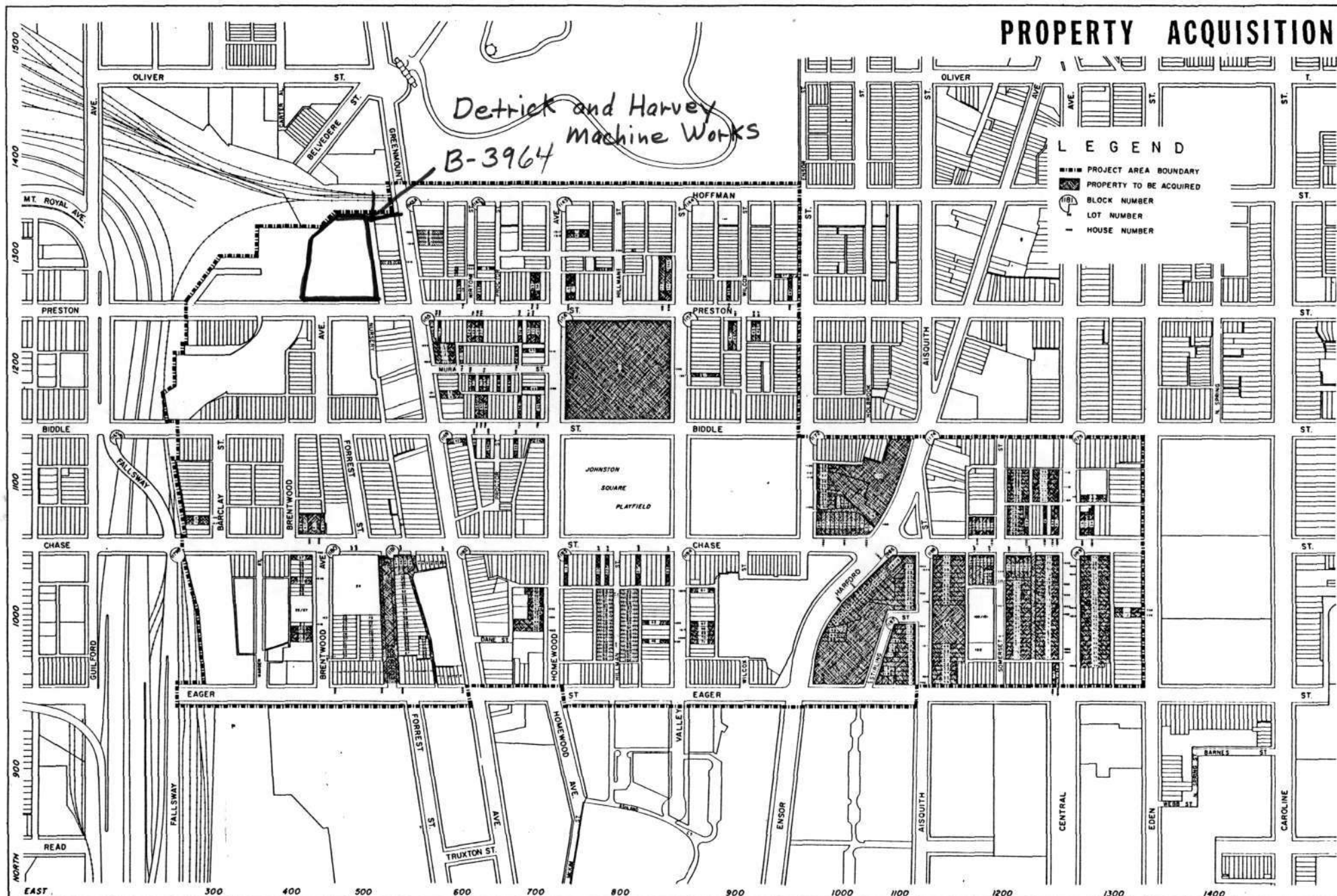
SURVEYOR AND DATE: Janet L. Davis, April 1987

PROPERTY ACQUISITION

Detrick and Harvey
Machine Works
B-3964

LEGEND

- PROJECT AREA BOUNDARY
- PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED
- BLOCK NUMBER
- LOT NUMBER
- HOUSE NUMBER



JOHNSTON SQUARE

PLANNING DIVISION



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

PROPERTY ACQUISITION

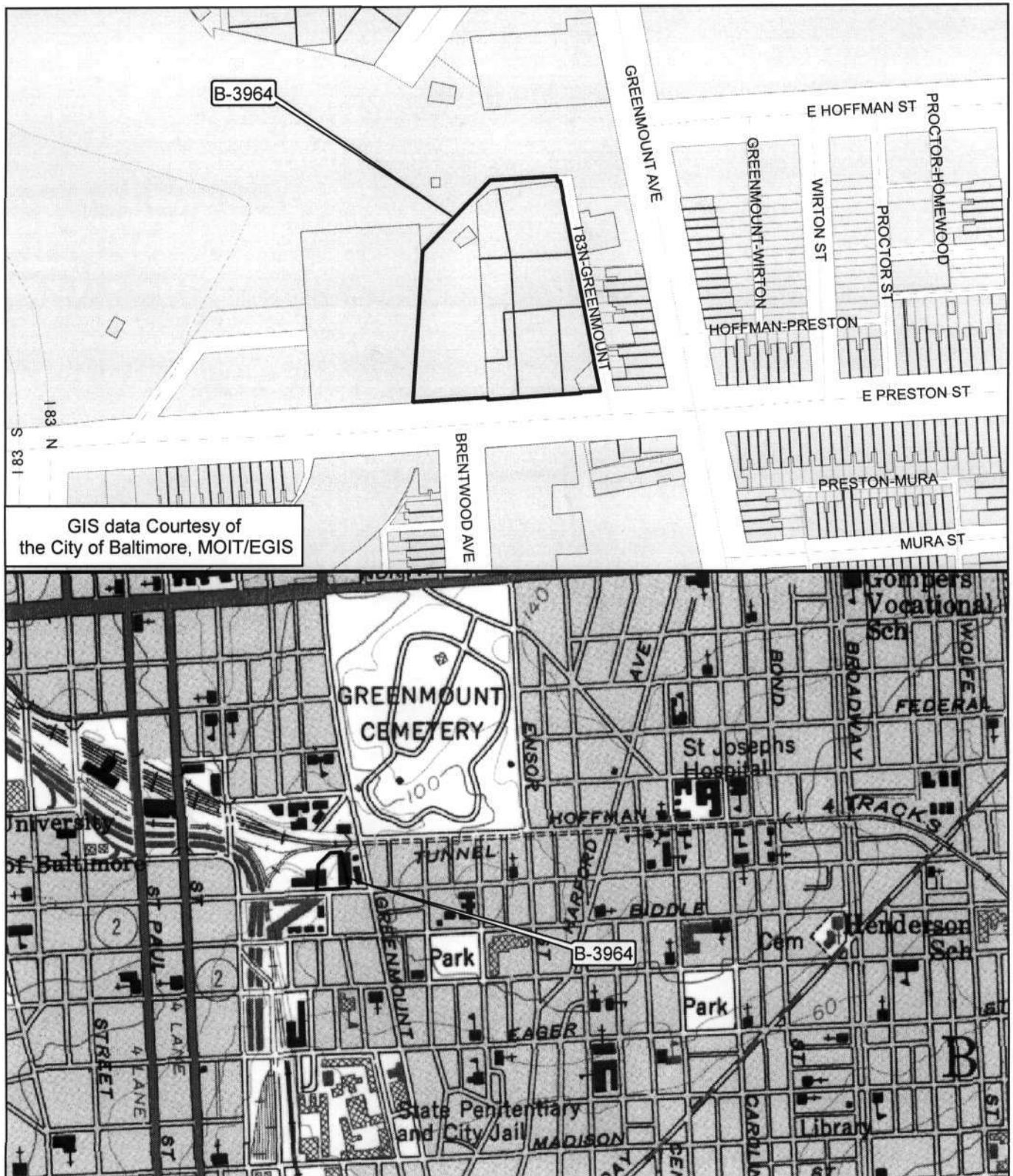
DATE 2/16/77
DRAWN BY S.A.H.
APPROVED:

REVISION
4/15/78
4/15/78
4/15/81
7/18/82
11/2/88

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EXHIBIT

B-3964
Detrick & Harvey Machine Works
508 E. Preston Street
Block 1128, Lot 016
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





Detrick and Harvey Machine Works

B-3964

508 E. Preston St.

Baltimore (City), Maryland

Photo: Janet L. Davis

Date: June 1986

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust

Southwest corner view

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Detrick and Harvey Machine Works

B-39 64

508 E. Preston St.

Baltimore (City), Maryland

Photo: Janet L. Davis

Date: June 1986

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust

East elevation

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AUTO REPAIR SHOP

DAEWOO
HONDA
TOYOTA

SUBARU
DAEWOO
HONDA
TOYOTA

BODY SHOP

LEE'S AUTO CENTER

STATE - MD AUTHORIZED
INSPECTION STATION
HARD A

AIR
CONDITIONING
WHEEL
ALIGNMENT
ELECTRONIC
TUNE-UP
WHEEL
BALANCING

MECHANIC
ON DUTY
MON - FRI 8 AM - 6 PM
SAT 9 AM - 3 PM

Detrick and Harvey Machine Works

B-3964

508 E. Preston St.

Baltimore (City), Maryland

Photo: Janet L. Davis

Date: June 1986

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust

Southeast corner view

3/4



Detrick and Harvey Machine Works

B-3964

508 E. Preston St.

Baltimore (City), Maryland

Photo: Janet L. Davis

Date: June 1986

Neg. loc.: Maryland Historical Trust

West elevation-detail

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